

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Bureau of Indian Affairs Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Bureau of Indian Affairs Advisory Board for Exceptional Children

3b. GSA Committee No.

5317

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

02/09/2017

6. Expected Renewal Date

02/09/2019

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Not Applicable

8c. Actual Term Date

Not Applicable

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

P.L.108-466, The Individuals with Disability Education Improvement Act, Part B, Section 611(h)(6)

13. Effective Date

12/03/2004

14. Committee Type

Continuing No

14c. Presidential?

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

5

16b. Report Date

04/18/2018

08/27/2018

09/24/2018

09/24/2018

09/24/2018

Report Title

15-BIE-2018-Meeting Minutes-4.18.2018

15-BIE-2018-Meeting Minutes-8.27-18

15-BIE-2018-Annual Report-9.24.2018

15-BIE-2018-Meeting Minutes 9.24.2018

15-BIE-2018-Meeting Minutes-9.24.18

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 5

17a. Open 1 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 1

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Complete 2018 Annual Report

Start

09/23/2018

End

- 09/23/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$14,500.00	\$20,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$3,461.00	\$10,450.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$536.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$690.00	\$1,700.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$225.00	\$2,400.00
18d. Total	\$18,876.00	\$40,086.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.30	0.30

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children accomplishes its purpose by meeting to review and discuss various Bureau of Indian Education documents and processes, including the Eligibility Document; Special Education Integrated Monitoring Process; Office of Special Education Programs Official monitoring report; Department of Education reports; Indian School Equalization Program data; and the BIE Reorganization Plan. The Advisory Board also obtains input and receives comments from parents and others interested in improving services to students with disabilities by receiving comments during the BIE Advisory Board Committee meetings. The Advisory Board uses information obtained from the various resources to advise and offer recommendations to improve services for students with disabilities and to support the Bureau of Indian Affairs in carrying out the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Public Law 108-446, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) establishes the membership requirements. As required by law, the board is composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with the education and provisions of services to Indian children with disabilities. The board composition reflects a broad range of viewpoints and includes at least one member representing each of the following interests: Indian persons with disabilities; teachers of children with disabilities; Indian parents or guardians of children with disabilities; service providers; State Education Officials; Local education officials; State inter-agency coordinating councils (for states having Indian reservations); tribal representatives or tribal organization representatives and BIA employees concerned with the education of children with disabilities.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children meets at least twice per year. The Board met three times in 2018. Executive committee meetings and other committee meetings are held as required to address various issues and needs. The meetings are relevant to the purpose of the Board and are necessary to ensure the required responsibilities as identified in Public Law 108-446 are successfully carried out.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The BIE Advisory Board for Exceptional Children is required under Public Law 108-446; and is necessary to gain input and advice from individuals concerned with ensuring special education services and related services are provided to children with disabilities.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Meetings are NOT closed.

21. Remarks

For FY 2018 the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) did not use a contractor to assist with the Advisory Board meetings. • For FY 2018 the BIE handled all and covered all administrative needs, committee costs, training and professional services (e.g. copying, printing, postage, shipping, travel costs for Board members, report writing and development, hotel, conference room and flight reservations and payments, cost comparison for three locations). There were no other additional costs such as indirect costs, labor and professional conference services. This was a cost savings of at least \$30,000 (minimum) per meeting. • Comparison of the travel costs for the BIE Advisory Board members was completed for several locations: Washington, D.C.; Minneapolis, MN and Albuquerque, NM, Choctaw, MS, Eagle Butte, ND and Phoenix, AZ.

Designated Federal Officer

Jennifer L. Davis Education Specialist

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Benally, Adrienne	12/02/2016	12/02/2019	Program Supervisor II, Navajo Nation, Dept. of Educ., Office of Special Educ. & Rehab. Services	Representative Member
Childs-Fullen, Delores	09/10/2015	09/10/2018	Teacher of adults in the BIE Family and Child Education Program	Representative Member
Faircloth, Susan	05/31/2016	05/31/2019	Professor & Chair, Educational Leadership Dept. Univ. of NC Wilmington	Representative Member
Rude, Harvey	07/09/2014	12/02/2019	Director, Colorado Center for Rural Education	Representative Member
Shawanokasic, Norman	05/31/2016	05/31/2019	Indian Educator	Representative Member
Stout, Jonathan	09/10/2015	09/10/2018	Assistant Professor in Dept. of Special Education and Early Childhood, Lock Haven University	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 7**Narrative Description**

The Board had one meeting in FY 2018. The Board addressed three priority areas and recommendations were made to the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). The priority areas addressed were: BIE Reorganization, Sovereignty, and Staffing and Support. The BIE Advisory Board provided stakeholder input on the BIE Special Education Annual Report for the Secretary of the Interior and the Department of Education.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Board is established to carry out the provision of Public Law 108-446, Section 611, Paragraphs: (A) (B) (C) (D) (E).

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

Cost savings has occurred however there are factors that have occurred to provide an undetermined amount of savings. During FY 2017 the BIE used a consultant to assist with preparation of advisory board meetings and there were fifteen board members. During 2018 the BIE discontinued the use of a consultant to assist with meeting preparations. The BIE handled all meeting preparations. Also the total number of board members decreased from fifteen members to seven members to five members throughout the FY 2018 year due to expiring member terms. For FY 2019 the number of Board members is expected to return back to fifteen Board members by January 2019, and in the future possibly hiring a consultant to assist with meeting preparations.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

39

Number of Recommendations Comments

For FY 2018 there are a total of six recommendations. The Advisory Board has provided guidance and advice to the BIE Director, Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior on the priority areas. Two areas of concern with justification and recommendations are provided: BIE REORGANIZATION - The Advisory Board is concerned that the current Administration has not clearly outlined and communicated the extent to which the reorganization of the BIE will impact the provision of special education and related services to students within BIE funded schools. 1. We recommend that the BIE immediately communicate the reorganization plan as relates to special education programs and services. Specifically, we request an update as to which phase of the reorganization the BIE is current in as per Order No. 3334. 2. We recommend expediting the hiring process for positions associated with this reorganization. 3. We recommend that clear roles and expectations for personnel (e.g., DPA, ERC, local schools, etc.) be communicated throughout the Reorganization. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF STAFF JUSTIFICATION - The BIE currently has an increased number of mediations and schools needing substantial improvement. Without appropriate staffing to assist schools in providing services for students with disabilities, the BIE is at risk of being out of compliance with federal requirements regarding the provision of special education services and coordination of related services. This is a violation of the federal trust responsibility for Indian Education as well as Individuals with Disability Education Act. 1. We recommend that the BIE implement a system by which schools have access to daily support services for students with disabilities (e.g., school-level special education coordinator, program improvement specialist for special education, or education specialist

at the ADD and SEA levels, implement the Continuous Quality Improvement Plan. 2. We recommend that the BIE work to ensure adequate recruitment and training of special educators and related service providers. To assist in this effort, the BIE is asked to work with existing Native American administrator preparation programs that can be leveraged to increase the number of special education professionals. We also recommend that school personnel have opportunities to participate in regional and professional development programming. 3. The Advisory Board recommends that collaborative partnerships between educator preparation institutions and BIE schools be developed for the purpose of preparing teachers, specialized service professionals, and school leaders for BIE schools. Implementation of the recommendation as outlined above will be critical as the BIE works to ensure implementation of federal regulations regarding the education of students with disabilities. Furthermore, such actions will strengthen the federal government's efforts to respect and honor the federal trust responsibility for Indian education.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

28%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The BIE has addressed the concerns and recommendations provided by the Board. The BIE has offered training's via on-site and webinars to all schools.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

28%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The BIE will work toward the implementation of all recommendations.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The BIE works closely with the Board at each meeting. For the FY 2018 recommendations, the Agency is preparing a response back to the BIE Advisory Board about the recommendations.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Action Comments

Not Applicable

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

No grants were reviewed.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Contact DFO | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Agency Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online Committee Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Online GSA FACA Web Site | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Access Comments

Individuals may contact the Designated Federal Officer, Jennifer Davis at jennifer.davis@bie.edu. The Board has a link within the BIE website www.bie.edu under Programs>Special Education>Advisory Board.